

upwards, and terminates in a circular aperture; they are commonly laid alongside the fibre, and often appressed to it, but occasionally stand out from it.

There are two very distinct states of this zoophyte. In old specimens, spreading over the stems of *Sertularia*, &c., the cells are massed confusedly together, and the form is with difficulty distinguishable. On shells it presents a much simpler appearance: the cells are sparingly distributed and distinct, and in such specimens I have never been able to detect any trace of a crust.

*Hab.* Exceedingly common on our coasts, both north and south, on *Sertularia abietina* and other zoophytes; also on mussel-shells from the Dogger Bank, &c.

XLII.—*Contribution to the Conchology of France.*

By J. GWYN JEFFREYS, Esq., F.R.S.

HAVING spent part of this autumn on the coast of Normandy, with my family, I have been requested by some of my scientific friends to publish the result of my researches; but I fear my story will not be much longer than that of the weary knife-grinder. In fact the whole of my work in the North of France was fruitless, as regards the discovery of new or rare species; although perhaps a list of some species taken by me, and which have not been noticed by writers on French Conchology, may be of some use in contributing towards the elucidation of the important problem of geographical distribution.

Etretat (where I was located) is a small sea-bathing place, containing about 1800 inhabitants, and is distant seventeen miles from Havre on the road to Dieppe. It is a delightful retreat, and has hitherto escaped invasion by our countrymen, who, if they knew of the clear sea and atmosphere, the picturesque rock scenery, the *fontaine*, subterranean river, and oyster park, and above all the facility of access from England, would soon crowd and spoil the place. This may be a selfish, but I believe it is a common, sentiment.

The fauna of this coast was, I understand, investigated many years ago by the late Abbé Dicquemare, whose MSS. are now to be seen in the public library of Rouen; and Cuvier is said to have made Fécamp (which lies about ten miles to the north of Etretat) his retreat during the storm of the Great Revolution, and to have commenced there his studies on the Mollusca. M. Bouchard-Chantereaux has published a list of the marine Testacea found in the Pas de Calais; M. Collard des Cherres has also published a list of those found in the Department of

Finisterre; and M. Petit de la Saussaye has given in his 'Journal de Conchilologie' a *résumé* of French marine Conchology, in an article entitled "Catalogue des Mollusques marins qui vivent sur les Côtes de France." This Catalogue was published in 1851; but it is too meagre to offer a satisfactory comparison between the French and our own Conchology, especially as regards the minute species. M. Moquin-Tandon's admirable work, which has lately been published, on the Land and Freshwater Mollusca of France, may be safely consulted for that branch of the subject.

My dredging at Etretat was a complete failure, as the seabottom for many leagues seemed to be composed of nothing but flint pebbles; and the shore was nearly as unproductive. The only uncommon species I obtained was *Otina otis*; and of this only a single specimen occurred to me.

I will now enumerate the marine Testacea I found, and which are not included in M. Petit's Catalogue, as well as the localities for a few land shells, which are not given by M. Moquin-Tandon.

1. *Montacuta bidentata*, Forbes and Hanley's *Brit. Moll.*
2. *Trochus Montagui*, *Brit. Moll.*
3. — *umbilicatus*, *Brit. Moll.*
4. *Lacuna puteolus*, and variety, *Brit. Moll.*
5. — *vincta*, *Brit. Moll.*
6. *Rissoa semistriata*, *Brit. Moll.*
7. *Skenea planorbis*, *Brit. Moll.*
8. *Odostomia plicata*, *Brit. Moll.*
9. — *obliqua*, *Brit. Moll.*
10. — *Rissoides*, *Brit. Moll.*
11. *Otina otis*, *Brit. Moll.*
12. *Cerithiopsis tuberculare*, *Brit. Moll.*
13. *Nassa varicosa*, *Brit. Moll.* M. Petit refers to this as a synonym of *N. incrassata*, which is also common on the French coast.
14. *Zonites glaber*, *Moquin-Tandon*; Etretat, Lillebonne, and Honfleur. I do not agree with M. L. Pfeiffer, that the *Z. alliarius* of British authors ought to be united with this species.
15. — *striatulus*, *M.-T.* (*Z. radiatulus*, *Brit. Moll.*); St. Clair near Etretat.
16. *Helix aspersa*, *M.-T.*; Etretat and Honfleur. I mention this (to us common) species, because M. Moquin-Tandon gives its habitat as "Principalement la France méridionale."
17. — *fusca*, *M.-T.* (*H. revelata*, Bouchard); Etretat.
18. — *limbata*, *M.-T.*; Honfleur and Lillebonne.
19. *Clausilia nigricans*, *M.-T.*; Etretat.
20. — *Rolphii*, *M.-T.*; Honfleur, Le Héve near Havre, and Lillebonne. I observe that Mr. Benson has modified his opinion as to the *Cl. Mortilleti* of Dumont being a distinct species. M. Moquin-Tandon gives it as a synonym of *Cl. Rolphii*.